

## Message Text

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ORIGIN DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 /115 R

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APPROVED BY D/PW:FASIEVERTS

DOD/ISA:LCOL.KRAAK

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P R 042114Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

INFO USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

JCRC NKP THAI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, VS

SUBJECT: FPJMT: INFORMATION ABOUT VC/NVA DEAD  
AND MISSING

REF: A. SAIGON 17417

B. SAIGON 11050/201100Z JUN 73

FOLLOWING MEMORANDA WERE PREPARED BY DEPT. OF ARMY AND  
ASSISTANT SEC. OF DEFENSE (HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT) IN  
RESPONSE TO REF B. TEXT OF MEMORANDA UNCLASSIFIED UPON  
RECEIPT.

1. FROM THE ACTING ADJUTANT GENERAL, DA; SUBJECT: INFOR-  
MATION ABOUT VC/NVA DEAD AND MISSING. DATED 17 JULY 1973.  
BEGIN TEXT: THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM PLACED THE RESPON-  
SIBILITY FOR THE COLLECTION, IDENTIFICATION, AND DISPOSI-  
TION OF ALL VIETNAMESE REMAINS WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS IN  
THE AREA WHERE THE REMAINS WERE FOUND. ENEMY DEAD IN THE  
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HANDS OF US UNIT COMMANDERS OR GRAVES REGISTRATION PERSON-

NEL WERE TURNED OVER TO LOCAL CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES FOR APPROPRIATE DISPOSITION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 17, USARV REG 638-30, "GRAVES REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS, RVN". IT IS MOST UNLIKELY, THEREFORE, THAT SUBSTANTIVE RECORDS ON DECEASED VIETNAMESE ARE IN US CUSTODY. WE HAVE ATTEMPTED, HOWEVER, TO IDENTIFY SUCH SOURCES AS ARE AVAILABLE AND THESE ARE INDICATED BELOW.

US ARMY, VIETNAM, POLICIES CONCERNING GRAVES REGISTRATION/PROCESSING OF REMAINS ACTIVITIES INVOLVING VIETNAMESE NATIONALS ARE REFLECTED IN USARV REGULATION 638-30 AND USARV REGULATION 190-2, "EVACUATING, PROCESSING, AND ACCOUNTING FOR DETAINED PERSONNEL".

THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL, US ARMY, HAS ADVISED THAT THE 22D UNITED STATES PRISONER OF WAR/CIVILIAN INTERNEE INFORMATION CENTER (BRANCH), FORT MEADE, MD, HAS RECORDS FOR ABOUT 19,000 ENEMY PRISONERS OF WAR. INCLUDED IN THIS TOTAL ARE RECORDS OF 531 ENEMY PRISONERS OF WAR WHO DIED WHILE INTERNED. THESE 531 CASE FILES REFLECT DISPOSITION OF THE REMAINS AND ARE BASED ON INFORMATION SUPPLIED THROUGH MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMAND, VIETNAM FROM THE COMBINED PRISONER OF WAR INFORMATION CENTER, RVN. THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE CENTER COMMANDER IS AUTOVON 923-3618.

THE RECORDS ADMINISTRATOR, US ARMY, PACIFIC, HAS REPORTED THAT SEVEN BOXES OF RECORDS OF THE DA NANG AIR BASE MORTUARY AND 5 BOXES OF RECORDS OF THE PLEIKU COLLECTING POINT ARE IN THE OVERSEA RECORDS CENTER IN HAWAII (APO SAN FRANCISCO, 96558). THE RECORDS ADMINISTRATOR, DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE, US EMBASSY, SAIGON, HAS REPORTED THAT THE RECORDS OF THE SAIGON (TAN SON NHUT AIR BASE) MORTUARY WERE IN SATTAHIP, THAILAND, UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY, USARSUPTHAI (APO SAN FRANCISCO, 96232). THE COMMANDER, USA MEMORIAL AFFAIRS AGENCY HAS QUERIED THAT UNIT ON THIS MATTER. HE REPORTS THAT A REVIEW OF AVAILABLE LOG BOOKS OF THE SAIGON (TAN SON NHUT AIR BASE) MORTUARY AND DA NANG AIR BASE MORTUARY REVEAL ONLY ONE ALLEGED VC AND ONE ALLEGED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NVA POW (FEMALE) RECEIVED. BOTH WERE RELEASED FOR LOCAL DISPOSITION. ALL INDIGENOUS PERSONNEL, MILITARY AND CIVILIAN, AND INCLUDING THOSE ALLEGED TO BE VC OR NVA, PROCESSED BY USA MORTUARIES WERE ASSIGNED EVACUATION NUMBERS, PROCESSED TO VARYING DEGREES, AND IDENTIFIED IF POSSIBLE. COMPLETED PROCESSING FORMS WERE GIVEN TO THE LOCAL VIETNAMESE OFFICIAL OR FAMILY REPRESENTATIVE WHO ACKNOWLEDGED RECEIPT OF THE REMAINS. FILE COPIES WERE

RETAINED BY THE MORTUARIES AND ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY. IT IS INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT SPECIFICS OF THE DISPOSITION OF REMAINS ARE NOT GIVEN. YOU MAY WISH TO CONTACT THESE SOURCES FOR FURTHER DETAILS. END TEXT.

2. FROM THE PRINCIPAL DEPUTY, ASD (H & E); SUBJECT: MEDICAL RECORDS. DATED 24 JULY 1973. BEGIN TEXT: THE MEDICAL RECORDS OF FOREIGN NATIONALS TREATED IN US MILITARY MEDICAL FACILITIES ARE RETURNED TO APPROPRIATE FOREIGN GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES. SUCH A POLICY IS REGULATORY PROCEDURE OF THE THREE MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS.

IN THOSE CASES WHERE ENEMY PRISONERS OF WAR AND CIVILIAN INTERNEES/ DETAINEES WERE PROVIDED MEDICAL CARE IN US MILITARY MEDICAL FACILITIES, COPIES OF SUCH MEDICAL RECORDS WERE FORWARDED TO THE USA PRISONER OF WAR INFORMATION CENTER, FT. GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND. AT THE USA POW INFORMATION CENTER ARE 531 RECORDS PERTAINING TO THE DEATHS OF SUCH PERSONNEL AND AN ESTIMATED 1000 FRAGMENTARY MEDICAL RECORDS OF BOTH INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT MEDICAL CARE.

THERE MAY BE APPROXIMATELY 300 FRAGMENTARY MEDICAL RECORDS OF VIETNAMESE PERSONNEL AT THE NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI. END TEXT. PORTER

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** SAIGON  
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